REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks, wherein Claims 1, 8 and 13 have been amended, Claims 9 and 10 have been cancelled from the application, and new Claims 16 and 17 have been added to the application. Currently, Claims 1-8 and 11-17 are pending in the above-identified application.

As an initial matter, Applicants express gratitude for the indication of allowable subject matter with regard to Claims 10 and 13-15. As a result, independent Claim 8 has been amended to include the features of allowable Claim 10 and intervening Claim 9. In addition, Claim 13 has been amended to include the subject matter of base Claim 8. Accordingly, it is submitted that independent Claims 8 and 13, and the claims depending therefrom, are allowable over the art of record.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-9 and 12 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,185,400 to *Hirai et al.* Claims 2, 4, 6 and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hirai et al.* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,779,175 to *Susnjara.*

A disclosed, non-limiting embodiment of the present invention pertains to an apparatus for integrated tool manufacture. As defined in independent Claim 1, the apparatus includes an input module means for making a supply of input objects accessible that serve to produce a description of a workpiece, there being one or more input parameters belonging to each input object. The input module means permits the selection of input objects and inputs their input parameters, making a supply of measurement objects accessible. Measurement objects are selected and linked with input objects or input parameters. Display module means visually display an image of a tool resulting from the chosen selection of input objects and the inputs. Machine program module means generate from the chosen selection of input objects and the parameters to be input therefor, a machine control program serving to control

a machine tool. Measurement program module means which from the chosen selection of measurement objects and their linkage with input objects, serves a measurement program for controlling a measuring device.

As described in paragraph [0011] - [0013], input objects define a characteristic part of a cutting tool. For example, as described in paragraph [0011], a flute is an example of an input object. Also described in paragraph [0012], another example of input object is flanks that are generated by a relative motion between the grinding wheel and the workpiece. At least one parameter or set of parameters belongs to each input object. As such, different cutting tools such as different boring tools, milling tools and the like, may be obtained by differently combining the input objects. The input objects, as set forth in independent Claim 1, are defined such that combination of different objects makes it possible to obtain any cutting tool. Independent Claim 1 has been amended to recite that each of the input objects define a characteristic part of a cutting tool. None of the art of record discloses these patentable features.

In contrast, *Hirai et al.* discloses a machine method on the basis of input graphics and process information using at least machine tool information, tool information, cutting condition information, material information, machining method symbol information, finishing symbol information, finishing allowance information and surface treatment information. The Examiner cites to column 139, lines 35-55 for disclosing the feature of the input module means. However, the flow chart according to Figures 1-3 make absolutely no mention of input objects which define a characteristic part of a cutting tool. In contrast, Figure 1 of *Hirai et al.* in S3 states only "inputting of machining shape data." However, *Hirai et al.* does not set forth how this machine shape data is inputted. Moreover, *Hirai et al.* fails to disclose that each of the input objects defines a characteristic part of a cutting tool. As described above, the input objects as described in the present application are defined in

such a way that combination of different objects makes it possible to obtain any cutting tool. Accordingly, *Hirai et al.* fails to disclose the patentable features of independent Claim 1.

In addition, new independent Claims 16 and 17 have been added the application. Independent Claim 16 recites the feature of previously pending Claim 1, but also includes the allowable subject matter with regard to a geometric model being displayed. Likewise, new independent Claim 17 has been added to the application, which includes the allowable subject matter with regard to inspection points being among the measurement parameters. Accordingly, it is submitted that new independent Claims 16 and 17 are allowable over the art of record.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the method and apparatus of independent Claims 1, 8, 13, 16 and 17, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentably distinguishable over the applied document. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of record and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, or should the Examiner believe a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that she should be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully Submitted,

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